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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant : TERASHIMA et al.
Serial No : 09/407,446
Filed : September 29, 1999
For : APPARATUS EQUIPPED...
Art Unit : 2722
Examiner :
Dated : November 5, 1999

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant wishes to bring to the attention of the U.S. Examiner the results of a European Search Report dated August 20, 1999 as well as other references which have come to Applicant's attention. As no first Office Action on the merits has issued, no fee is due.

EP 0 857 316 A has been cited by the European Patent Office under category X with regard to European claims 1, 2, 13-15, 22, 27, 28 and under category Y with regard to European claims 3, 11, 12 and 26. The reference discloses a portable image scanner. The abstract, figures 1, 5, 7 and the text column 10, lines 21-column 12, line 33 and claim 1 are stated to be relevant.

EP 0 683 449 A has been cited under category Y with regard to European claims 3, 11, 12 and 26 and has been cited under category A (technological background) with regard to European claims 4, 16-18. The reference discloses an information processing apparatus with image reading unit.

EP 0 685 958 A has been cited under category X with regard to European claims 1 and 3. The reference discloses an image information processing apparatus and image information processing system. The text at column 5, lines 5 through column 7, line 54 and figures 1- 4 are stated to be relevant.

EP 0 650 843 A has been cited under category A with regard to European claims 4-6, 21 and 25. Column 4, line 38 through column 5, line 4 and figure 11 are stated to be relevant.

EP 0 548 374 A has been cited under category A. The abstract is stated to be relevant. This reference relates to a printer fitted with image reader.

Consideration of these references is requested. To facilitate the Examiner's review, Applicant attaches a copy of the European Search Report.

Applicant also wishes to bring to the attention of the U.S. Examiner references which have come to Applicant's attention.

WO 93/01676 corresponds to U.S. Patent 5,412,490 cited by the U.S. Examiner in the first Office Action on the merits for application 08/964,257.

Japanese Utility Model (U.M.) Application Laid Open No. 5-5464 corresponds to U.S. Patent 5,412,490 (cited in the previous Office Action for application 08/964,257 as indicated above).

Japanese Utility Model Application Laid Open No. 5-18168 also corresponds to U.S. Patent 5,412,490.

Japanese Patent Application Laid Open No. 7-311838 corresponds to U.S. Patent 5,602,650 which was also cited in the previous Office Action by the U.S. Examiner for

application 08/964,257.

Japanese Patent Application Laid Open No. 6-105037 corresponds to U.S. Patent 5,663,811 cited in the previous Office Action by the U.S. Examiner for application 08/964,257.

Japanese Patent Application Laid Open No. 1-235465 corresponds to U.S. Patent 4,989,237 cited in the previous Office Action by the U.S. Examiner for application 08/964,257.

Japanese Utility Model Application Laid Open No. 1-137660 also corresponds to U.S. Patent 4,989,237, which was cited in the previous Office Action by the U.S. Examiner for application 08/964,257.

Japanese Utility Model Application Laid Open No. 1-137661 also corresponds to U.S. Patent 4,989,237, cited by the U.S. Examiner in the previous Office Action for application 08/964,257.

EP 0 548 374 A corresponds to U.S. Patent 5,412,490, cited by the U.S. Examiner in the previous Office Action for application 08/964,257.

EP 0 683 449 A corresponds to U.S. Patent 5,602,650, cited in the previous Office Action by the U.S. Examiner for application 08/964,257.

EP 0 333 173 A corresponds to U.S. Patent 4,989,237, also cited in the previous Office Action by the U.S. Examiner for application 08/964,257.

CA 2,106,253 corresponds to U.S. Patent 5,663,811, cited in the previous Office Action by the U.S. Examiner for application 08/964,257.

CN 1121213 A corresponds to U.S. Patent 5,602,650, cited in the previous Office Action by the U.S. Examiner for application 08/964,257.

KR 127274 B1 corresponds to U.S. Patent 5,663,811 cited in the previous Office Action by the U.S. Examiner for application 08/964,257.


U.S. Patent 5,163,089 corresponds to U.S. Patent 4,989,237 cited in the previous Office Action by the Examiner for application 08/964,257.

U.S. Patent 5,475,503 discloses a roller for an optical scanner wherein the roller includes a thinned mid section and a plurality of grooves. Compressible, surface gripping rings are fitted onto the plurality of grooves.

Consideration of the various references is requested.

Respectfully submitted
for Applicant,

By: _____


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Registration No. 31,903
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JJM:sk
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Enclosed: PTO-1449 Form
Copy of European Search Report
Copies of (21) References

DATED: November 5, 1999
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SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHARGE SUCH FEE TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 13-

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BY: *Barbara Gedrich* DATE: November 5, 1999